

CLAIMS:

1. A system comprising:
a shared memory; and
a plurality of processing elements coupled to said shared memory, wherein each of said plurality of processing elements comprises a processing unit, a direct memory access controller and a plurality of attached processing units, wherein said direct memory access controller is configured to receive a plurality of commands from a corresponding processing unit to be executed during one or more remote procedure calls, wherein each of said plurality of attached processing units in each of said plurality of processing elements does not interrupt said corresponding processing unit upon completion of each of said one or more remote procedure calls.
2. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said direct memory access controller in each of said plurality of processing elements comprises a plurality of first level queues for storing said plurality of commands issued by said corresponding processing unit.
3. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein each of said plurality of first level queues are configured to store one or more commands of said plurality of commands associated with a different attached processing unit.
4. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said plurality of commands comprise a first instruction to copy attached processing unit instructions associated with a particular attached processing unit from said shared memory to said particular attached processing unit, wherein said plurality of commands comprise a second instruction to

5 copy data associated with said attached processing unit instructions from said shared
6 memory to said particular attached processing unit.

1 5. The system as recited in claim 4, wherein said attached processing unit
2 instructions associated with said particular attached processing unit comprise instructions
3 that enable said particular attached processing unit to perform a particular operation on
4 said data associated with said attached processing unit instructions associated with said
5 particular attached processing unit.

1 6. The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said plurality of commands comprise
2 a third instruction to copy the results of said particular operation to said shared memory.

1 7. The system as recited in claim 4, wherein said first and second instructions to
2 copy attached processing unit instructions and data associated with said attached
3 processing unit instructions are requests to copy one or more lines of memory in said
4 shared memory to said particular attached processing unit.

1 8. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 comprises a second queue, wherein said plurality of commands in said plurality of first
3 queues are merged in said second queue.

1 9. The system as recited in claim 8, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 comprises a third queue, wherein said third queue expands said merged plurality of
3 commands stored in said second queue into single line instructions.

1 10. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 executes said expanded merged plurality of commands stored in said third queue without
3 bank conflicts.

1 11. The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 is configured to poll a status line of each of said plurality of attached processing units to
3 determine if any of said plurality of attached processing units completed its operation
4 during said one or more remote procedure calls.

11 12. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said direct memory access controller
12 is configured to interrupt said corresponding processing unit at a synchronization point,
13 wherein said synchronization point occurs after said one or more remote procedure calls
14 are performed.

1 13. A system comprising:
2 a shared memory; and
3 a plurality of processing elements coupled to said shared memory, wherein each
4 of said plurality of processing elements comprises a processing unit, a direct memory
5 access controller and a plurality of attached processing units, wherein said direct memory
6 access controller is configured to receive a plurality of commands from a corresponding
7 processing unit to be executed during one or more remote procedure calls, wherein said
8 direct memory access controller is configured to poll a status line of each of said plurality
9 of attached processing units to determine if any of said plurality of attached processing
10 units completed its operation during said one or more remote procedure calls.

11 14. The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said direct memory access controller
12 in each of said plurality of processing elements comprises a plurality of first level queues
13 for storing said plurality of commands issued by said corresponding processing unit.

14 15. The system as recited in claim 14, wherein each of said plurality of first level
15 queues are configured to store one or more commands of said plurality of commands
16 associated with a different attached processing unit.

1 16. The system as recited in claim 14, wherein said plurality of commands comprise
2 a first instruction to copy attached processing unit instructions associated with a
3 particular attached processing unit from said shared memory to said particular attached
4 processing unit, wherein said plurality of commands comprise a second instruction to
5 copy data associated with said attached processing unit instructions from said shared
6 memory to said particular attached processing unit.

1 17. The system as recited in claim 16, wherein said attached processing unit
2 instructions associated with said particular attached processing unit comprise instructions
3 that enable said particular attached processing unit to perform a particular operation on
4 said data associated with said attached processing unit instructions associated with said
5 particular attached processing unit.

1 18. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein said plurality of commands comprise
2 a third instruction to copy the results of said particular operation to said shared memory.

1 19. The system as recited in claim 16, wherein said first and second instructions to
2 copy attached processing unit instructions and data associated with said attached
3 processing unit instructions are requests to copy one or more lines of memory in said
4 shared memory to said particular attached processing unit.

1 20. The system as recited in claim 14, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 comprises a second queue, wherein said plurality of commands in said plurality of first
3 queues are merged in said second queue.

1 21. The system as recited in claim 20, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 comprises a third queue, wherein said third queue expands said merged plurality of
3 commands stored in said second queue into single line instructions.

1 22. The system as recited in claim 21, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 executes said expanded merged plurality of commands stored in said third queue without
3 bank conflicts.

1 23. The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 is configured to interrupt said corresponding processing unit at a synchronization point,
3 wherein said synchronization point occurs after said one or more remote procedure calls
4 are performed.

1 24. A method for executing one or more remote procedure calls comprising the steps
2 of:

3 issuing a plurality of commands by a processing unit to a direct memory access
4 controller to be executed during one or more remote procedure calls, wherein said
5 plurality of commands comprise a first instruction to copy attached processing unit
6 instructions associated with a particular attached processing unit from a memory to said
7 particular attached processing unit, wherein said plurality of commands comprise a
8 second instruction to copy data associated with said attached processing unit instructions
9 from said memory to said particular attached processing unit;

10 issuing to said particular attached processing unit an indication to start a
11 particular operation on said data associated with said particular attached processing unit
12 instructions; and

13 polling a status line of each of a plurality of attached processing units to
14 determine if any of said plurality of attached processing units completed its particular
15 operation;

16 wherein said plurality of attached processing units do not interrupt said
17 processing unit upon completion of each of said one or more remote procedure calls.
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1 25. The method as recited in claim 24, wherein said attached processing unit
2 instructions enable said particular attached processing unit to perform said particular
3 operation.

1 26. The method as recited in claim 24, wherein said indication to start said particular
2 operation on said data is issued from said direct memory access controller to said
3 particular attached processing unit.

1 27 The method as recited in claim 24 further comprising the step of:
2 interrupting said processing unit at a synchronization point, wherein said
3 synchronization point occurs after said one or more remote procedure calls are
4 performed.

01 28. The method as recited in claim 24, wherein said direct memory access controller
02 comprises a plurality of first level queues for storing said plurality of commands.

01 29. The method as recited in claim 27, wherein each of said plurality of first level
02 queues are configured to store one or more commands of said plurality of commands
03 associated with a different attached processing unit.

01 30. The method as recited in claim 28, wherein said direct memory access controller
02 comprises a second queue, wherein said plurality of commands in said plurality of first
03 level queues are merged in said second queue.

1 31. The method as recited in claim 24, wherein said first and second instructions to
2 copy attached processing unit instructions and data associated with said attached
3 processing unit instructions are requests to copy one or more lines in said memory to said
4 particular attached processing unit.

1 32. The method as recited in claim 30, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 comprises a third queue, wherein said third queue expands said merged plurality of
3 commands stored in said second queue into single line instructions.

1 33. The method as recited in claim 32, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 executes said expanded merged plurality of commands stored in said third queue without
3 bank conflicts.

1 34. The method as recited in claim 28, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 comprises a second queue, wherein said plurality of commands in said plurality of first
3 queues are expanded in said second queue.

1 35. The method as recited in claim 34, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 comprises a third queue, wherein said third queue merges said expanded plurality of
3 commands stored in said second queue into single line instructions.

1 36. The method as recited in claim 35, wherein said direct memory access controller
2 executes said expanded merged plurality of commands stored in said third queue without
3 bank conflicts.